## physics helpline

**Q- A** vertically polarized radio wave of frequency 9.0  $\times 10^5$  Hz traveling into the page. The maximum electric field strength is 1250 V/m.



(b) What is the magnetic field strength and direction at a point where  $\vec{E} = (625 \text{ V/m}, \text{ down})$ ?

Again, using the same formula, the magnitude of the magnetic field is given by

 $B = E/c = 625/(3*10^8) = 2.08*10^{-6} T$ 

As the direction of the energy transport (Poynting vector) is in to the page and is given in terms of cross product of E and B ( $E \times B$ ) according the right-hand rule the magnetic field must be in negative x direction or to the left if E is downwards.

(c) What is the smallest distance between a point on the wave having the magnetic field of part b and a point where the magnetic field is at maximum strength?

If at t=0 and x=0; E is maximum then the equation of the electric field is given by

 $E = E_{max} \cos (kx - \omega t)$ 

Hence the distance x of the point where E is 625 V/m at t = 0 from origin (where E is maximum at t = 0 is given by

$$625 = 1250 \cos (kx - \omega 0)$$

Or  $\cos kx = \frac{1}{2}$ Or  $kx = \frac{\pi}{3}$ 

Now as  $k = 2 \pi / \lambda$  we get

$$x = \lambda/6 = c/(6n) = 3*10^8/(6*9.0*10^5) = 55.55 m$$